

Remarks

Claims 2, 8, 11, 15 and 16 have been amended.

The Examiner has previously argued that "Phan et al does teach a cylindrical configuration in figure 2b". As previously pointed out by Applicants, the members 32 and 34 of Figures 2B and 2C of Phan et al are "helical", not "cylindrical" or "tubular", as now clearly set forth in Applicants' claims. A helical device does define a cylinder or a closed tubular device. Thus, Phan et al fails to teach the features set forth in Applicants' claims, particularly as now amended.

Upon allowance of the independent claims, the withdrawn claims should be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 2-26-03



L.E. Carnahan  
Agent for Applicants  
Registration No. 20,555  
Tel. No. (925) 422-5024